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College Writing (ENG 101)

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3/27/2023

The article I choose to read is “Prove Your Case: A New Approach to Teaching Research Papers” by Stephen L. Broskoske. A perfect research paper consists of numerous components. The author introduced his effective method to guide students to write comprehensive and persuasive research papers. He said, "students lack a true grasp of the overall task, they also lack an understanding of how to proceed in preparing the paper"(Broskoske 31).

To solve these issues, Broskoske compared a lawyer defending cases to a student writing research paper. After breaking down the process, Broskoske asserts five different phases of organizing and writing. The first phase is to frame the topic properly because students have no clue where they should begin if the topic is too broad. "A writer has to frame the topic so that it is definable and defensible" (Broskoske 32). The second phase is looking for evidence to support the case. How to prove the fact that the writer believes is true? Broskoske provided three extra tips: “What constitutes believable evidence? Is there sufficient evidence to support your case? Selecting more sources rather than fewer is better because you have more on which to report” (Broskoske 32). The third phase presents evidence collected through the paper, making connections to the argument. The fourth phase is making a closing argument. Lawyers usually reaffirm the argument, highlight the supporting key point, then give a final conclusion. However, this is not it.

Before calling it a day, a final review is crucial. This process is to make sure the evidence and claims in the paper are invulnerable.

In the end, Broskoske gave percentages to prove his new approach is successful and effective. He asserts that "91 percent reported that they would recommend this method of writing research papers to a friend□ and 79 percent indicated that they plan to use this approach in preparing a research paper for another class in the future"(Broskoske 32).

After reading this article, I found that it is helpful for me to write my own research paper because the author mentioned all the steps and present them vividly to me. I will give it a try with his method.

Work Cited

“Prove Your Case: A New Approach to Teaching Research Papers,” by Stephen L.

Broskoske, *College Teaching*, Vol. 55, No. 1 (Winter, 2007), pp. 31-32.